

(b) Government have approved 14 proposals for setting up joint ventures in Nepal. Out of this, 9 ventures are in operation and remaining 5 are at various stages of implementation.

(c) At present there is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

(d) and (e). A High level task force, comprising officials of India & Nepal was set up under Indo-Nepal Joint Commission to look into various matters of bilateral cooperation including Industrial Joint Ventures. The recommendations of the Task Force were accepted by the Joint Commission.

#### **Regional Disparities**

3621. SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has made any study regarding per capita income and productivity of agricultural labour in different parts of the country during 1961 to 1981;

(b) whether a study of the Planning Commission has revealed that incidents of poverty in the Eastern and Central region have increased while the Western and Northern regions have proposed;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(d) the remedial steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Planning Commission had constituted a Study Group on Agricultural Strategies for Eastern Region of India. The Group submitted its report in July 1985. The Group studies agricultural productivity in Eastern Region, and covered the period 1970-73 to 1980-82. The productivity was measured in value terms per unit of net sown area. Per capita income and productivity of agricultural labour in different parts of the country during 1961 to 1981 was not studied.

(b) and (c). Planning Commission estimates quinquennially the incidence of poverty by States. The estimates for the years 1972-73 (the first official estimate) and 1987-88 (the latest) are presented in the Statement. It can be seen that the incidence of poverty in all the States and Regions has decreased over the period referred to.

(d) The Government propose to continue the policy of favouring the relatively poorer States in the allocation of central assistance for State-Plans and in the intensity of implementation of poverty alleviation, employment generation and minimum needs programmes.

## STATEMENT

## Percentage of People below Poverty Line

Region	States	1972-73								1987-88		
		Rural				Urban		Combined			Rural/Urban Combined	
		2	3	4	5	6	7	8				
Eastern Region	Bihar	55.8	43.4	54.5		42.7	30.0	40.8				
	Orissa	71.0	43.3	68.6		48.3	24.1	44.7				
	West Bengal	64.0	35.9	56.8		30.3	20.7	27.6				
North Eastern Region	Assam	48.2	33.8	47.0		24.5	9.4	22.6				
Central Region	Madhya Pradesh	61.4	44.8	58.6		41.5	21.3	36.7				
	Uttar Pradesh	53.0	51.6	52.8		37.2	27.2	35.1				
Western Region	Gujarat	43.9	34.0	41.1		21.2	12.9	18.4				
	Maharashtra	53.9	34.3	47.7		36.7	17.0	29.2				
Northern Region	Haryana	21.5	29.9	23.1		11.7	11.7	11.6				
	Himachal Pradesh	15.5	12.5	15.1		9.7	2.4	9.2				
	Jammu & Kashmir	36.1	51.6	39.0		15.5	8.4	13.9				
	Punjab	21.5	21.8	21.5		7.2	7.2	7.2				
	Rajasthan	47.5	39.3	46.0		26.0	19.4	24.4				

Region	States	1972-73			1987-88			Urban Combined
		Rural	Urban	Combined	Rural	Urban		
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Southern Region	Andhra Pradesh	57.7	43.8	54.9	33.8	26.1	31.7	
	Karnataka	52.3	45.8	50.5	35.9	24.2	32.1	
	Kerala	57.8	52.7	56.9	16.4	19.3	17.0	
	Tamil Nadu	63.0	52.2	59.7	39.5	20.5	32.8	
	Small States and UTs	37.6	26.7	30.2	11.8	4.7	7.7	
All India		54.1	41.2	51.5	33.4	20.1	29.9	

Note: The estimate for 1972-73 pertains to Nagaland and Union Territories.